## House Republican Press Release

September 15, 2006 Press Office: 860-240-8700

## **Ark Full Gospel Pastors and Members Recognized**



Area Legislators Thanks Group for Support of First Responders

WATERBURY- State Representatives Tony D'Amelio (R-Waterbury), Selim Noujaim (R-Waterbury) and David Scribner (R-Brookfield) appeared at the Ark Full Gospel

Church in Waterbury on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, to thank Pastors Timothy and Sharma McCarty and the members of the church for their dedication to first responders.

The Ark Full Gospel Church recently held their Sixth Annual Day of Honor where they spend 24 hours providing free food, baked goods and desserts to all police, fire, EMT volunteers and other emergency workers and volunteers. The event has been heavily attended each year it has been held. The organization began holding the Annual Day of Honor following the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001.

"I am privileged that the members of the Ark Full Gospel Church have elected to build their church in the East End, and become members of our community. They bring dignity and respect to our neighborhood, and I am truly grateful for their presence," said Representative Noujaim.

"This group has done a tremendous job in generously providing comfort, support and faith to the first responders in their community," said Rep. D'Amelio. "We wanted to come here and let them know that we appreciate the critical support role they play to those who are on the front line in any emergency or crisis."

The three legislators presented a citation to the Pastors and church membership on behalf of the Connecticut General Assembly.

Governor M. Jodi Rell also recently proclaimed Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006 as "First Responders Day" in the State of Connecticut, honoring those who played a critical role in the emergency and recovery efforts at Ground Zero, and to bring attention to those who volunteer and work as firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians as well as other first responders.